

John

## New Connections Manifesto

(Dis) Connection was “a networking journal for radical collectives and infoshops.” The second issue was written by Chicagoans, and was largely about the Autonomous Zone Infoshop, a collectively run space that operated in the northwest side of Chicago for over ten years in five of its own storefronts and in the back room of another Collective’s space. The words “Left Bank donated \$50.00 to assist in our goal of one Uzi per A-Zone member” on the inside cover of the November ‘94 issue instantly sparked my interest. Left Bank Books is a Collectively run, Leftist bookstore in Seattle which has been going since 1973. Successive issues were done in turn by the various cities that had collectives that were part of the project. The other Collectives were also Infoshop/radical community space Collectives that were maintaining storefronts, and thus shared common concerns about interpersonal relationships, gentrification, if paying rent to keep a space going made sense, and what not. I’d only discovered this journal when my comrade, ex-A-Zoner Rachel A., lent me two copies to help with my research for the A-Zone Essay Project. Networking with a radical organization that has been able to keep going for so long is a great opportunity, and journals are a great way to do so for people who can’t make a trip to Seattle or whatever other cities have been able to maintain such long term spaces such as May Day Books which has been going in Minneapolis since 1975.

I would Love to help try to organize a New Connections journal for Punk and/or Collective Houses, Infoshops, and other radical spaces and projects. A different name would be fine, I came up with this one to give (Dis)Connection props. The fact that we can use the Internet to easily distribute the journal, and allow various Collectives and independent organizers to print an appropriate number of copies and save money on shipping and share the printing costs are just two of the reasons why we can have a similar project now that could go really well. I would like to use a similar format where cities take turns publishing issues to share about the trials and tribulations in the Anti-State of their local movements, without airing too much dirty laundry. Maybe we can have a list serve for that! I would also greatly appreciate input from people who were involved with (Dis) Connection.

Articles in the second issue such as “Against Half-Assed Race and Class Theory and Practice” by Ken Wong, “Gentrifuckation and White Frontier Collectives” and “On Boys In Collectives” were somewhat painful reminders about how many current Leftist activists in general, and participants in the Infoshop Movement in particular are pretty good at re-inventing faulty wheels. Bringing back these past discussions and insights is a large part of the point of that project. When asked to be on a panel about “Zines & Libraries” at Chicago ‘Zine Fest in 2010 when I was doing the research, I made a point in inviting Ken Wong and bringing the two copies of (Dis) Connection with me, and talking about how Wicker Park was still 70% Latin@ at the time the A-Zone was there according to the journal. I brought this up while talking about the current gentrification of Pilsen, for anyone there who still might not be taking it seriously. In the other issue of the journal I was able to check out, #3, Winter 95, one particular article stood out to me, “A-ZONE!? WHAT THE fuck?!?” The article is mostly an analysis of the discussion and its follow up, and a larger one was produced as a pamphlet, Existentialist Blues. I would Love to



see a copy, and possibly include it as an appendix to a future edition of the project, or a new one.

In an era of so-called "social networking" websites, these journals were a real charge to get a hold of, and I'm sure I would have read them repeatedly if they were new, and that they would have spurred even more discussions than these old issues have recently. It was also fascinating to see Food Not Bombs in Chicago declared dead forever. There were three different neighborhood chapters going strong when I was reading the journal years later! The death of the Earth First! Movement was also pondered in this 1990s journal, showing how we can often despair when there still is hope. The networking that came formally out of the journal culminated in Active Resistance, a series of events that were held in Chicago in opposition to the Democratic National Convention that met there in 1996. We had an Active Resistance banner hanging on the wall in the main room of the Bucktown space, and the events were the stuff of local legend to me.

I had started the A-Zone Essay Project while volunteering for a space in El Barrio Pilsen, Chicago which had opened to the public as the Sowing Circle in the fall of 2008, and slowly changed to the Lichen Lending Library then La Biblioteca Popular del Barrio by the fall of 2009. I mentioned the A-Zone a great deal in meetings there, and was asked many questions which gave me the idea to put some of the history and lessons learned into print for people not involved with La Biblioteca, but other similar projects. As I've traveled the country since then, I've shared the 'zine, *The Autonomous Zone Infoshop: The A-Zone & a Decade of Anarchy in Chicago*, which came out of the project, with volunteers, collective members and/or hangers-around at such projects as the Dry River Radical Resource Center, the Long Haul Infoshop, and the Taala Hooghan Infoshop. I've made a point of making the 'zine available for free on [zinelibrary.info](http://zinelibrary.info) where it can be read online easily or printed out.

Right now I'm mostly involved with the Taala Hooghan Infoshop in Flagstaff, Arizona, and the Collective is currently updating their 2010 DISORIENTATION GUIDE for students, which they've made available for free on their website, another great format which I first became familiar with while hanging around the Madison Infoshop in Wisconsin. There has been talk about making a state-wide Disorientation Guide for some time, and after I wrote the first draft of this article, there has been some talk here of making it the first issue of this journal! If you are interested in supporting this project, I can be reached at [scenereports@peoplenotprofit dot net](mailto:scenereports@peoplenotprofit.net).

Last printed by Slingshot! #111. Max from People Not Profit was the only person to contact me after an earlier version was posted on People of Color Organize! and its social media spin offs. For the time being the project will probably be submerged into their Scene Reports.

—Alex Iwasa



## South side ARA and the Illinois antifascist scene 2009-present

This is the first submission I've gotten since starting to edit Scene Reports for People Not Profit. Hopefully it'll go up on <http://www.peoplenotprofit.net> soon, though this is the sort of material I'm looking for a 'zine for radical networking. Also posted Squat the Planet.

<http://southsideara.blogspot.com>

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### The Illinois National Socialist Front and "White Pride World Wide" in Chicago

In early winter of 2010 members of the Illinois National Socialist Front began to publicize a "White Pride World Wide" event on March 21. March 21st is the anniversary of the Sharpsville Massacre, where South African anti-apartheid demonstrators lost their lives to police violence, and is a day of remembrance for those that lost their lives in the massacre. March 21st has also been more recently been appropriated by white nationalists, with South African whites being a cause celebre of some white nationalists fearful of the loss of their white-skin privilege in an increasingly multicultural society. With initial posts going up on the INSF's website and Stormfront.org, a major white nationalist forum, the march was advertised to be at an undetermined location in urban Chicago. While Chicago antifascists had often encountered white supremacists in the suburban Chicagoland area and elsewhere in Illinois, open white supremacist organizing in Chicago itself was much less common and showed a sense of bravery (or foolishness) on the part of Illinois boneheads.

The neo-nazis of the INSF had previously held a series of events and actions before the announced WPWW march, testing the waters and organizing increasingly larger events. These previous events included recruitment barbecues, flyer drops that received media attention, co-organizing a protest of the Illinois Holocaust Museum in Skokie, Illinois with the National Socialist Movement, and passing out fliers and white power music samplers at the South Side Irish St. Patrick's Day Parade. Another incident of note was a protest of an alleged "anti-white hate crime" in Belleville, Illinois, in September 2009, which saw the INSF again collaborating with NSM, as well as Ku Klux Klan and other organized racist groupings.

Of course, Chicago anti-fascists were keeping tabs on the INSF. During the summer of 2009, antifa had successfully infiltrated an INSF recruitment barbecue, which was also under surveillance by either FBI or police. Intelligence gathering had allowed antifa to map out the leadership of the INSF, which seemed to be based around two neo-nazis: Phil Anderson of Peoria, Illinois, and Steve Turpel of Arlington Heights. Phil Anderson was a former member of Bill White's defunct American National Socialist Workers Party, and was the obvious frontman of the group. Steve Turpel, a landlord and amateur fencer, was an active white supremacist organizer that stayed behind the scenes and maintained a less public profile.



During the fall of 2009, antifa began to take a more proactive approach to shutting down the INSF. Anti-fascists used the gathered information to lure Phil and another INSF member into meeting up to "recruit" potential Chicago white power skins into their organization.

Upon discovering that they had been lured into a trap, the INSF boneheads decided to pull knives and fight their way out of the situation. This proved to be a case of "poor decision-making" that white supremacists are often known for, as they were left stranded with flat tires and bruises. Although they tried to play it up as a win in online posts on stormfront:

"When INSF members Phil Anderson and Andrew Jackson showed up to meet someone they thought was a potential new recruit to our Movement, they were attacked by six low-life pieces of waste. Our brave Brothers quickly took control of the situation, turned the ambush around, and gave the race-traitors a beating they will not soon forget. The six cowards were last seen rapidly retreating, several with limps, down 55th street."

a post on the anti-fascist blog threewayfight revealed otherwise: "Piecing together overheard rumors and reading between the lines of the NSF report, it seems the NSF wasted several months communicating with someone claiming to be interested in starting a chapter within

Chicago itself. The two neo-nazis met with this person at a restaurant on the southside, but at some point they realized what was going on and either flashed or drew a knife. The restaurant owner noticed this and called the police as a brawl broke out. One antifa may have been hit, but the injury was minor.

The police arrived and detained, possibly arresting the NSF members for their weapons. Either way, the neo-nazis probably had to ask the cops for a ride home after discovering their disabled or damaged vehicle."

Members of South Side Anti-Racist Action later took a trip to visit Phil Anderson at his community college in Peoria, passing out fliers to students and professors informing them of fascist organizers in their community. Concerned community members responded back, giving

more information to be disseminated amongst anti-fascists. Phil also bragged about the event and claimed to have met a "beautiful Aryan woman" because of the fliering, although no one believed him. South Side Anti-Racist Action put out a call to action against the White Pride World Wide march, and began to organize with others to shut down the event. Around this time, started to change for the INSF. Communication on the part of antifa attempting to learn more about the upcoming White Pride World Wide march wasn't being responded to as quickly, and eventually not at all. The INSF was becoming increasingly dysfunctional and paranoid, with less visible presence online and no presence on the streets. At some point, members of South Side Anti-Racist Action noticed that the INSF had pulled the original call for the march off of their website, although posts still existed on Stormfront. As we learned from later intel gathering, the INSF had passed the event off to other local neo-nazis at the last minute.



Prior to March 21st, others on the left had been involved in organizing against the WPWW march. South Side Anti-Racist Action had called a private meeting between different anarchist, Marxist, and feminist/queer groups that had previously signed onto the statement against the march in an effort to network and coordinate in the weeks leading up to March 21st. The International Socialist Organization, a vanguardist Marxist party and the largest single presence in Chicago's left, also attempted to intervene around this time and organized a well-attended public meeting to coordinate different groups and individuals working on resistance to the march. The ISO attempted to use the meeting as a front to push their politics onto the assembled body in the form of a non-violence agreement, which was quickly rejected by a number of the attendees. The ISO front group did schedule a large protest action downtown, bringing a public but largely non-confrontational presence to the day.

Chicago anti-fascists were on the prowl early on the morning of March 21. Prior intel gathered from public sources, infiltration, and elsewhere had not given a definite location or time, but had revealed that the event would be somewhere downtown along Michigan Avenue, an area known as Chicago's pricey shopping district and a common destination for tourists and locals. Antifa spent the morning hours in well-planned patrols, which resulted in chasing off at least one crew of boneheads that were also there looking to join up with the march. The inability of the boneheads to coordinate with the organizers of the march showed just how effective infiltration efforts were in preventing useful communication and networking with the neo-nazis putting together the march, and is a success in itself.

After several hours of calm, ARA members sent out a call that they had spotted four neo-nazis with flags and gear at Millennium Park. Anti-fascists quickly put together a plan, with one group crossing the street with the intention of catching the fascists off guard and another serving as spotters. As antifa crossed Michigan pretending to be tourists they ambushed the shocked boneheads, even beating one neo-Nazi with his own flag. The antifa and neo-nazis brawled for less than a minute, with the antifa running off and dispersing into the crowd while they left they heavily costumed boneheads with their white power flags to deal with the police that had arrived on the scene. Two of the neo-nazis were reportedly taken away in an ambulance, while the other two were taken away by police. Spotters ensured that all antifa were accounted for, and witnessed a crowd move from the rally to Millennium Park to taunt the injured neo-nazis and create a lively blockade in the middle of the projected fascist march. At the end of the day, all four neo-nazis participating in what had originally been billed as a large white supremacist event in the Chicago made it about two blocks before they were publicly beaten and humiliated, with at least 10 times as many leftist anti-racists taunting them while they were dealing with police and medical hassles. South Side ARA eventually dropped intel releases on all four of the boneheads, increasing their fear and paranoia and resulting in at least one losing child custody because of public evidence of his participation in neo-Nazi organizing.



## The Aftermath and Ongoing Anti-Fascist Organizing

Following the success of shutting down the White Pride World Wide march and routing the Illinois National Socialist Front, Chicago anti-fascists needed to figure out what to do next. A quick survey on Stormfront.org revealed serious frustrations on the part of Illinois area white supremacists, a wedge that was used to further break apart attempts at unity and collaboration between white supremacists. Following up on the INSF proved to be difficult, as intelligence gathering on the group yielded little. After a number of months came a major breakthrough: not only was the INSF defunct, but the infiltration of other white supremacists had revealed that ex-INSF organizer Steve Turpel was a convicted pedophile that many other neo-nazis had been hesitant to work with, explaining why he had kept so much of his information under wraps. With this information quickly made public, South Side ARA was sure to directly inform his neighbors about his past history as a white supremacist organizer and conviction for child pornography. Ex-INSF organizer Phil Anderson later became a state collaborator against his former mentor Bill White, testifying in his trial and earning recognition as a snitch from white supremacists familiar with White's case. Both Turpel and Anderson appear to have been shunned by white nationalists in Illinois and beyond.

Major events were happening with anti-fascist organizing in North America that showed the importance and seriousness of confronting an active white supremacist presence. Anti-fascists and anti-racists protested a Vancouver, British Columbia white supremacist rally held

in conjunction with White Pride World Wide events, and fascists in response firebombed an Anti-Racist Action-affiliated household shortly after. In Portland, Oregon, an anti-racist and anti-fascist skinhead was shot by black-clad assailants waiting outside while leaving a bar after celebrating his birthday. This attack left him with severe paralysis, and showed the lengths Portland-area white supremacists are willing to go to remove antifa from their city. Portland has a long history of white supremacist organizing that reached a pitched battle in the 1990s between groups like Tom Metzger's White Aryan Resistance and Anti-Racist Action, Skinheads Against Racial Prejudice and other groups. Portland has since spawned Volksfront, a neo-pagan white supremacist brotherhood that began in Oregon's prison system and has since spread across North America, that has attracted plenty of attention for their participation in white power music circles and their membership's numerous racist, xenophobic, and anti-semitic attacks. In response to this attack, a call for the first July 31st Day of Action Against Fascism and Racism was put out and resulted in actions and events across North America (and a few in Europe) to counter fascist and white nationalist organizing.

In Chicago, white supremacists moved their attention to the upcoming Hitler birthday celebration on April 17. Adolf Hitler birthday celebrations are a common cultural activity for neo-nazis, giving them another chance to gather together and network. Unlike the White Pride World Wide march, the Hitler birthday celebration was a private invitation-only event that was kept hidden from the public for fear of retribution. This didn't help the



neo-nazis for long, as the next year the Hitler birthday celebration was disrupted by a smoke bomb attack that forced the white supremacist gathering to close early and ties between the organizer and the restaurant were strained due to bad publicity. The disruption of the event and the publicity surrounding it helped South Side ARA identify Lyons, IL neo-nazi Art Jones as an organizer and target for an outing and home demonstration as part of the July 31st Day of Action against Fascism and Racism in 2011. Following the demonstration South Side ARA learned through intel gathering that publicly outing Jones in the community had caused further problems by causing him severe financial problems that led him to grow desperate enough to swallow his pride and beg for handouts from other neo-nazis to make ends meet, leaving Jones unable to continue funding white supremacist events and campaigns out of his own pockets.

The National Socialist Movement, a nationwide neo-nazi group headquartered in Detroit and best known for their gaudy uniforms and overly theatrical rallies, has also taken a few hits from anti-fascists over the past few years. The NSM never did seem to have a strong hold in Chicago, likely due to having rivals like the Creativity Movement with a longer-running presence. The NSM was largely centered around Susan Lenner, with regional leader Mike Schloer based in the suburb of Naperville. Lenner's employment in a head shop/adult toy store in the heart of Chicago's gay district proved to be too juicy a secret to keep to ourselves, and eventually resulted in outings and demonstrations that cost Susan her job. Mike Schloer proved just as easy to topple, as his (now ex-)wife had kicked him out of the house and later went public with sexual assault accusations. Schloer never really got his act together and had to move on to Kentucky, where telephone calls revealed that those neo-nazis that had taken him in had also gotten tired of him and kicked him out of the house. He was last seen at a November 2012 NSM rally in North Carolina where he appeared to be intoxicated.

Perhaps the biggest blow to the National Socialist Movement in recent years was the failure of a national conference in April 2011. Believing themselves to be safe while holding an internal planning conference inside a church in Pemberton, NJ, the NSM members were surprised to discover about 30 antifa standing outside their door. The resulting brawl was captured on video by an unknown NSM lackey and posted to Youtube, and showed several neo-nazis injured with the security detail uncertain about how to handle the situation. The next day's public rally still happened, although the neo-nazis that did show up appeared more than a little nervous about the opposition in the counter-demo crowd.

In May of 2012, white supremacists representing the American Third Positionists, National Socialist Movement, Council of Conservative Citizens, and others gathered in the Chicago suburb of Tinley Park at a restaurant to participate in a forum on white nationalist economics organized through Stormfront.org. During the event, approximately 20 anti-fascists



entered the restaurant and confronted the white supremacists, resulted in a rumble that injured five fascists badly enough to be taken to the hospital and completely disrupted the meeting. Two of the white supremacists at the meeting were arrested by police, one for illegal possession of a firearm and the other for a warrant for possession of child pornography. Five affiliates of the Indiana-based Hoosier Anti-Racist Movement were later arrested some distance away and charged with a number of felonies. These five, known as the Tinley Park Five, have been charged with 37 counts including armed battery and mob action. While the Tinley Park Five were all granted bail, it should be noted that not a single one of them received a bail amount of less than what George Zimmerman was initially given for shooting Trayvon Martin to death. Anti-fascists in across North America have been active in drumming up support for the Tinley Park Five since the incident, and working on fundraising and prisoner support has been a major focus for South Side ARA for some time.

<http://tinleyparkfive.wordpress.com>

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Drawing of me done by my  
comrade Hailey. Alex





"THE CONCEPT OF NONVIOLENCE IS A FALSE IDEAL. IT PRESUPPOSES THE EXISTENCE OF COMPASSION AND A SENSE OF JUSTICE ON THE PART OF ONE'S ADVERSARY. WHEN THIS ADVERSARY HAS EVERYTHING TO LOSE AND NOTHING TO GAIN BY EXERCISING JUSTICE AND COMPASSION, HIS REACTION CAN ONLY BE NEGATIVE. . . . THE KINGS, WILKINSES, AND YOUNGS BRING US IN KING'S WORDS TO . . . 'TURN THE OTHER CHEEK TO PROVE OUR CAPACITY TO ENDURE, TO LOVE.' WELL, THAT IS GOOD FOR THEM PERHAPS BUT I MOST CERTAINLY NEED BOTH SIDES OF MY HEAD."

GEORGE L. JACKSON

"I HAVE FOUND OUT THAT ALL I HAVE BEEN DOING IN TRYING TO CORRECT THIS SYSTEM IN AMERICA HAS BEEN IN VAIN. I AM TRYING TO GET AT THE ROOTS OF IT TO SEE JUST WHAT OUGHT TO BE DONE."

M.L.K.  
NOV. 11, 1967



"SOMETHING IS WRONG WITH CAPITALISM AS IT STANDS IN THE U.S. WE ARE NOT INTERESTED IN BEING INTEGRATED INTO THIS VALUE STRUCTURE. POWER MUST BE RELOCATED, A RADICAL REDISTRIBUTION OF POWER MUST TAKE PLACE. WE MUST DO SOMETHING TO THESE MEN TO CHANGE THEM."

M.L.K., NOV. 1967

CONTINUED TO PUNCH SOME STRANGE FORM OF CHRISTIANITY THAT HAS NONVIOLENCE AT THE HEEL, HOWEVER, THEIR VERSION OF CHRISTIANITY ASSIGNED THEM TO SEARCH FOR OUR REPAIR AND NOT THE OTHER WAY AROUND.

"A SHOW OF COERCION, SKILL AND VALID ANTI-ESTABLISHMENTISM WILL ALWAYS BRINGS ON VIOLENCE FROM THE FASCIST. THE PEOPLE KNOW THIS, SO THEY MUST ALSO KNOW THAT THIS VIOLENCE CAN BE COUNTERED BEFORE THEY'LL BELIEVE AND BELIEVE."

JONATHAN JACKSON

"CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE AS A STRATEGY DOES NOT THREATEN THE POWER STRUCTURE AND WILL ONLY RESULT IN MINOR REFORMS. THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT RESULTED IN THE APOCRYPHAL OF A JUST AND EQUAL SOCIETY, BUT THERE ARE NOW MORE NEGROES OF COLOR IN PRISON THAN EVER BEFORE, NOT ONLY THAT, BUT IF YOU LOOK CLOSELY AT THE PRISON SITUATION OF AMERICA, SEGREGATION IS STILL PRESENT, BASED ON PEOPLE'S RACE AND CLASS. AND BANNING INDIA IS NOW JUST ANOTHER WORLD SUPERPOWER WITH MILLIONS IN POVERTY AND RAMPANT ETHNIC VIOLENCE. . . . CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE IS NOT ONLY COUNTERPRODUCTIVE BUT ANTI-NATURAL. NAME ANOTHER ANIMAL SPECIES THAT SITS PASSIVELY BY WHILE BEING ATTACKED; IT EITHER FIGHTS, FLEES OR GETS EXTINCT. THE SAME GOES FOR ALMOST ANY PERSON AGGRESSIVE ATTACKER ON THE STREET (AND IN THE HOME - YOU EITHER FIGHT BACK OR GET AN U.S. CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE JAIL, WHEN RESISTANCE IS REALLY NECESSARY IN SITUATIONS OF SOCIAL INJUSTICES, AVOID THESE INSTINCTS."

EL SEWAY

"AN OPPRESSED CLASS WHICH DOES NOT STRIVE TO LEARN TO USE ARMS TO ACQUIRE ARMS, ONLY DESERVES TO BE TREATED LIKE SLAVES. WE CANNOT FORGET, UNLESS WE BECOME SOURCEFUL PACIFISTS OR OPPORTUNISTS, THAT WE ARE LIVING IN A CLASS SOCIETY. THAT THERE IS NO WAY OUT OF THIS SOCIETY, AND THAT WE CAN BE MORE, EXCEPT BY MEANS OF CLASS STRUGGLE. IN . . ."

By Kevin 'Rashid' Johnson, Minister of Defense, New Afrikan Black Panther Party - Prison Chapter. rashidmod.com

I've been a long time fan of Rashid's art, I hope you check some more of it out, & I hope to print more & maybe some of his writing next.

The next article was shared with me by Buddy from the Aframerican Bookstore. Mondo is one of my prisoner pen pals & has also shared a great deal of his work with me. Please check out the article & more on his case!



## **COMBAT EMASCULATION OF M. L. KING**

Each year, from around the first of January through the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, we are "treated" by television and radio stations, newspapers and magazines, etc. to tributes to this great African civil and human rights leader and advocate. But, all too typically, these tributes are limited in scope to remembrances of our Brother as defined and restricted by passages from his famous "I Have a Dream" speech. Most often, the passages chosen are those that the U.S. political/economic establishment finds least critical of and threatening to its continuing exercise of power and control. The fact is, though, that this speech was delivered in 1963. Martin was not assassinated until 1968. During that time, his understanding of the U.S. political/economic system grew significantly and his critique of it became sharper.

In looking at wealth and poverty in this country, King came to see economic injustice as less of some kind of glitch in capitalism and more a matter of the very nature and function of capitalism itself. In examining U.S. military interventions abroad--particularly, in countries populated mainly by people of color--he offered a critique that characterized these actions as neo-colonialist and imperialist.

Whether talking about justice issues here in the U.S. or in U.S. roles in foreign affairs, Martin Luther King's analysis and critique of this country made him a threat to the status quo.

In this time of high unemployment and increasing poverty on one hand, and skyrocketing corporate profits and multi-million-dollar salaries and bonuses for corporate executives on the other, it would be instructive for us to read and hear what Martin Luther King, Jr., the threat to the status quo, had to say about capitalism and economic injustice.

While the President of the United States maintains a hit-list of alleged "enemies" and "terrorists" in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Somalia, and elsewhere and orders drone strikes to take these persons (and whatever other persons might be close by) out; while the U.S. government continues to support the Israeli regime's maintenance of an apartheid-like system of oppression against the



Palestinians; and while Obama continues to gloat about the U. S.-engineered overthrow and assassination of Muammar Gaddafi, we need to be reminded of what Martin had to say about the neo-colonialist and imperialist character of U.S. foreign policy and need to be able to see the clear parallels between the U.S. military adventurism of the mid- to late-sixties and that adventurism being played out in what is about to be 2013.

As People United to Combat Media and Government Emasculation of Martin Luther King, Jr., we recognize that, by consistently imposing upon the public an image of a person who had a dream and was essentially innocuous, the U.S. government and the country's commercial media are emasculating a man in death they could not weaken or intimidate in life. We do not stop at the mere recognizing of this but shall take immediate steps to make use of newspapers, magazines, television and radio programs, the internet, community events honoring Martin Luther King, and other avenues to give people--African people especially--exposure to the strong and courageous man he had become by the time he stood up in opposition to the U.S. war of aggression against the people of Viet Nam. The speeches and writings of Martin Luther King, Jr. give us plenty of words to quote, whether we post them on-line, print them on paper, read them on the air, or/and otherwise use them to re-introduce our Brother to a public accustomed to seeing and hearing an image of one who did nothing more significant than dream.

W.M.E. we Langa

December, 2012

**Wopashitwe Mondo Eyen we Langa** (formerly known as David Rice) has been a political prisoner in the Nebraska State Penitentiary since 1970, when he and fellow Black Panther Ed Poindexter were convicted for the bombing murder of Omaha policeman Larry Minard, and given life sentences. Both have consistently denied any connection with the crime, and Amnesty International, after reviewing the many inconsistencies in the trial transcript, as well as FBI files obtained through the Freedom of Information Act, have called for either a new trial, or immediate release.

Mondo we Langa  
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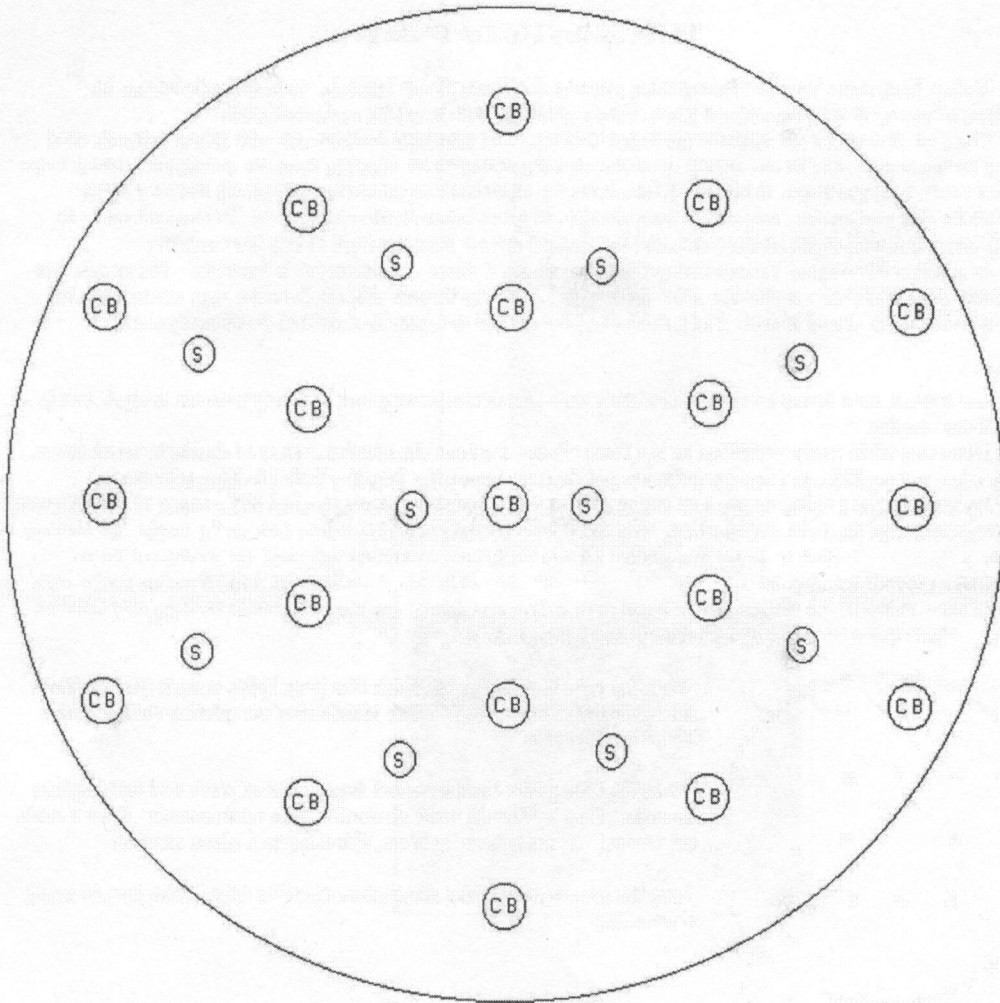


## Three Sisters Companion Planting

In spring 2010 I experimented with the Three Sisters Companion Planting, a Native American companion planting of squash, corn and pole beans, for my first time. There were some points where I didn't follow the directions at all, so I thought I would write a How To article to share the directions I received, how I did or didn't follow them, and the outcomes. As you can see in the photo to the right (all photos taken by Don Ray), the corn patch was pretty healthy!



The Three Sisters Garden Package included a 57 gram packet of Tennessee Red Cob corn, one oz. of Kentucky Wonder Garden Beans, and three oz. of Seminole Pumpkin seeds. The plot is supposed to be a circle 25 feet in diameter, a diagram is below. The packet of corn was far more than I needed, and I ended up planting out a rectangular area that was roughly 25 feet by 60 feet, using the pattern recommended, with seed left over.

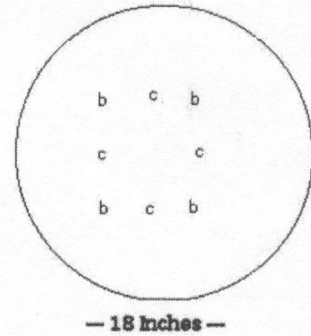




### Three Sisters Companion Planting

The corn is supposed to be a tall and sturdy variety, to support the pole beans and planted when the soil was warmed up and the night time lows are only about 60 degrees Fahrenheit. In southern Iowa this year, that was shortly after Mayday.

The corn should be planted out in mounds that should be five inches high and 18 inches across. I just noticed I was supposed to flatten the tops, which I didn't do. I made the mounds with compost of mostly broken down straw and sheep manure. This turned out to keep the mounds together really well through fairly heavy rains this spring when the soil which is heavily clay was all flattened out around the mounds. The mounds should be separated five feet from the center of each next mound, and in staggered rows. Four corn seeds should go into the mound forming a six inch square.



I buried each seed of corn with a handful of compost from another pile which was mostly broken down food waste, straw, grass, goat and chicken manure. The seed germination rate was nearly 100%, though a few plants turned yellow and died.

Don tilled in between the mounds then I cultivated in between the mounds with a hoe, and worked some of the soil onto the mounds, to try to help them keep their form.

When the bulk of the corn was roughly four inches tall, I planted four bean seeds per mound three inches from the corn plants, making squares like in the diagram in the upper right hand corner of this page. The one oz. package of beans was half of what I needed, and Don bought me another packet so I could finish planting out the area.

I was supposed to wait until the beans sprouted before I planted the pumpkins, but the day the beans were supposed to start germinating we were expecting heavy rains, so I went out, cultivated with a hoe again, and made mounds for the pumpkins the same way I did for the corn and beans, in between the central mounds of corn and beans. Again, the amount of pumpkin seeds didn't match the ratio for corn. But with my previous experience with other cucurbits in Iowa, I wasn't worried about their ability to take over the area.

The directions, as shown above, advocated filling nearly all the areas between the corn and bean mounds be filled with squash mounds, planting three seeds per mound, then thinning to two per mound after germination.

Due to lack of seeds and my previous experience with squash, cucumbers and pumpkins here, I ended up mostly making two rows of mounds that went through the corn patch long ways through the corn patch between the corn and bean mounds, with two pumpkin seeds and handfuls of compost per mound. I made a couple other mounds to use my last four seeds on the edges, so I could still train the vines to grow along the corn patch if I had to.



I was supposed to only hoe the plot one more time if I had to, but I was nervous and kept the plot cultivated very well until the pumpkins started to fill out.

Possibly because it was too wet and/or cool, the bean and pumpkin seeds didn't germinate too well, at about 50%. But what did germinate was vigorous!

Very quickly the beans started to grow up the corn, and the pumpkins filled up the ground. The corn grew to be some ten feet tall and I saw why I probably didn't need to cultivate as much as I did after all.



## Who is Tsutomu Shirosaki?



Tsutomu Shirosaki is a Japanese national imprisoned as a political prisoner in the United States. He has been accused of being a member of Japanese Red Army and participating in several attacks,

including a mortar attack against a U.S. embassy. He is currently serving 30-years in a U.S Federal prison.

Tsutomu Shirosaki was born on December 5, 1947 in Toyama, Japan. In the 1960s, he went to Tokyo University, where he received a degree in engineering. It was during his college years, where Tsutomu began participating in the student movement, embracing a more left-wing philosophy. By the 1970s, Shirosaki participated in various underground activities, including a string of bank and post office robberies. These actions were fund-raising activities for Japanese radical groups. But in 1971, Shirosaki was arrested in Tokyo and sentenced to ten years in prison for an attack on a Bank of Yokohama branch office.

## Flight 472 Hijack

On September 28, 1977, five members of the Japanese Red Army hijacked Japan Airlines Flight 472 in Dhaka, Bangladesh. They demanded \$6 million from the Japanese government and the release of nine prisoners held in Japan. The prisoners listed included radical activist and members of the Japanese Red Army.

On October 2, six of the nine prisoners were released and taken to Dhaka. One of those prisoners released was Tsutomu

Shirosaki. The released prisoners, the JRA hijackers and the remaining hostages then flew to Algeria, where the hostages were released. According to Shirosaki, the released prisoners and JRA members eventually ended up in Lebanon. After the drama of the hijacked settled, the Japanese authorities announced that the released prisoners should turn themselves in to the nearest Japanese embassy. With no response from the prisoners, the Japanese government placed the freed prisoners on the Interpol wanted list.

Tsutomu Shirosaki, while choosing freedom, had no idea where to go. He had never traveled outside of Japan and spoke no other language than his own. The other freed prisoners found themselves in a similar situation. According to Shirosaki, the Japanese Red Army assisted the freed prisoners in adjusting to the new region. Despite the generosity of the JRA, Shirosaki has stated that he never joined the organization. Instead, he became a volunteer fighter in the Palestinian revolution with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP.) With the Palestinian movement being so strong in Lebanon, Shirosaki did not need a passport to stay in the country.

## 1986 Bombing in Jakarta

On May 14, 1986, two mortar-styled rockets were fired into the U.S. Embassy compound in Jakarta, Indonesia. Then, two rockets were fired from a hotel room toward the Japanese Embassy. Also that morning, a car bomb exploded in the Canadian Embassy parking lot causing injuries to three people. A group calling itself the Anti-Imperialist International Brigade (AIIB) claimed responsibility for the action. The attacks were in response to the G7 summit in Tokyo.

Seven weeks after the incident, the Japanese government announced that they



had found a fingerprint of Tsutomu Shirosaki in the hotel room where the rockets were launched at the Japanese embassy. They also claimed the Anti-Imperialist International Brigade was another named for the Japanese Red Army.

During the time of the attack, Tsutomu Shirosaki was still in Lebanon. He was not in Jakarta and was not a member of either the JRA or the AIIB. Shirosaki did not respond to the claims of his involvement because he felt they were so ridiculous. He was in Lebanon and thought that he was in a safe haven.

After the Oslo Accords, it became difficult for the Palestinian armed resistance to exist in Lebanon, so Shirosaki decided to leave. Using a false ID, he traveled to South Asia.

In December of 1987, Italian authorities announced an international warrants for Tsutomu Shirosaki and another suspected AIIB/JRA member, Junzo Okudaira, for an attack on the U.S. Embassy in Rome six months earlier. The attack, claimed by the AIIB, was committed in response to the Economic Summit taking place in Venice, Italy.

## The Arrest

On September 21, 1996, local police in Kathmandu, Nepal arrested Tsutomu Shirosaki after he tried to contact some friends, whose phone was tapped by the US National Security Agency. He was handed over to the FBI and extradited to the United States to stand trial.

After arriving in the United States, Shirosaki stood before a 15-day trial and was sentenced to two concurrent 20-year terms and also given 10-year terms on other chargers. The 20-year terms were ordered to run consecutively to the 10-year terms for a total prison time of 30 years.

Tsutomu Shirosaki never took the stand at

his own trial. He has stated he had no part in the attacks in Jakarta or membership with the Japanese Red Army or the Anti-Imperialist International Brigade. He has argued that his fingerprint had been placed at the scene. In his own words, "I did not know that planting a copied finger print from a file is easy work, even in the early '70s a corrupted policeman did, but a few years later it became clear. But I didn't know such information, as mentioned, I was in Japan's jail, then in Lebanon, then in South Asia, so no news about such activities."

Tsutomu Shirosaki was sentenced to two concurrent 20 year terms, two concurrent 10 year terms. The 20 year terms were ordered to run consecutively to the 10 year terms for a total prison time of 30 years in federal prison.

On February 11, 2007, Tsutomu Shirosaki was informed that was to be transferred out of USP Beaumont in Texas. For over two weeks Shirosaki was in mid-transfer before ending up at FCI Terre Haute in Indiana. Prior to the transfer, Shirosaki's mail repeatedly was lost, delayed or returned to the sender. Such actions are an attempt to undermine support for Shirosaki.

Shirosaki has been placed in FCI Terre Haute's Communication Management Unit (CMU), where all his correspondence is controlled and monitored. These new units are the governments new attempt to sperate political prisoners from the support community.

The reports that have come out of Terre Haute have stated that Shirosaki has had severe issues with his sight and has not received adequate care. If not treated Shirosaki could lose his vision permanently. Despite this, Shirosaki has continued to remain strong and committed to the struggle for people's liberation.

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